


# Coins of Hawaii & Currency & Stamps

Jim Belt


March 2024

# Hawaiian Coinage




 **1 Cent - Kamehameha III**  
**1847**  
*Standard circulation coin*  
 Copper • 6.2 g • ø 27 mm  
 KM#1, N#16184




 **5 Cents - Kalākau I**  
**1881**  
*Pattern*  
 Nickel  
 KM#2, N#21734




 **1 Dime - Kalākau I**  
**1883**  
*Standard circulation coin*  
 Silver (.900) • 2.5 g • ø 18 mm  
 KM#3, N#16182




 **1/8 Dollar - Kalākau I**  
**1883**  
*Pattern*  
 Silver (.900) • ø 18 mm  
 KM#4, N#16185




 **1/2 Dollar - Kalākau I**  
**1883**  
*Standard circulation coin*  
 Silver (.900) • 12.5 g • ø 30.5 mm  
 KM#6, N#16186



 **1/4 Dollar - Kalākau I**  
**1883**  
*Standard circulation coin*  
 Silver (.900) • 6.3 g • ø 24.3 mm  
 KM#5, N#6577



 **1 Dollar - Kalākau I**  
**1883**  
*Standard circulation coin*  
 Silver (.900) • 26.73 g • ø 38.1 mm  
 KM#7, N#16183

# Hawaiian Proof Set



Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands  
**1847 Kamehameha III issue**  
**Background**

**Keneta**

---



 **1 Cent - Kamehameha III**  
**1847**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Copper • 6.2 g • ø 27 mm  
KM# 1, N# 16184

The ill-fated Keneta was commissioned by [King Kamehameha III](#). Coined money was in great demand in the [Hawaiian Islands](#) and was in continual shortage in the early nineteenth century. In response, King Kamehameha III devoted Chapter 4, Section 1 of the legal code of 1846 to the monetary system of the kingdom, tying it directly to that of the United States, thus normalizing the rate of transaction of small change in the islands and their corresponding values to United States money. Anticipating growing coined money needs, the legal code also outlined future Hawaiian coin designs.

Of the first coins decided to be acted upon was the Keneta—a copper coin valued at one cent of a U.S. dollar. As the Hawaiian Treasury was in shortage of funds during this period, the copper cent was seen as an initial "affordable" issue to be followed by other denominations at a later date. [James Jackson Jarves](#), acting as agent for the Hawaiian Government, placed an order for 100,000 of these coins in 1846. He contracted Edward Hulseman—best known for his 1837 Half Cent token—to design and engrave the coin. It is not known precisely where the pieces were minted – although Walter Breen in *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* asserts that they were produced at the private mint of H. M. & E. I. Richards of Attleboro, Massachusetts; regardless, Jarves was given a note dated January 14, 1847 in the amount of \$869.56 by the Minister of Finance as payment for the order.



 **1 Cent - Kamehameha III**  
**1847**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Copper • 6.2 g • ø 27 mm  
KM#1, N#16184

On 3 May 1847 the merchant ship Montreal arrived in Honolulu after sailing from Boston via Rio de Janeiro, Cape Horn and Tahiti. The Keneta were part of the cargo delivered to the Minister of Finance. When the coins reached the public, they proved a grave disappointment. There has been some claim that the denomination was misspelled "Hapa Haneri" instead of the correct "Hapa Hanele" (which translates to "part of a hundred" or loosely "one cent"). However, "Hapa Hanele" is a 20th-century spelling. The spelling "Haneri" was used throughout the 19th century, and also appears on the \$100 and \$500 bills issued during the reign of King Kalakaua. Reports of the time state that the King's portrait was unrecognizable. In addition, the Keneta also arrived worn or discolored by the humidity and bilge water of the Montreal, in whose hold they had spent many months. Local merchants, who were "against very small transactions," immediately voiced their objections to the coins; and the only general usage witnessed was by governors of the outer islands who used them as change when collecting duties and taxes.

The last known time of issue for the Keneta was in 1862, when 11,595 were still being held in the Treasury vault. Their legal tender status was removed in 1884, and in the following year 88,305 were sold as scrap and shipped out of the country.



# 1881 Five Cent Pattern Issue

In 1881, on a trip around the world [King Kalākaua I](#) was approached in Vienna, Austria by officials representing the French and Belgian mints. These officials suggested that a national coinage be issued for his island kingdom. [King Kalākaua I](#) was pleased with the idea of independent coinage for his Kingdom that he ordered patterns for the new coin to be struck.<sup>[2]</sup> A spelling mistake by the engraver substituted the word "Au" for "Ua" in the [Kingdom of Hawai'i](#) motto [Ua Mau ke Ea o ka 'Āina i ka Pono](#). 200 patterns with [King Kalākaua I](#) in profile were minted in Paris and forwarded to the king upon his return to his island kingdom.<sup>[1]</sup> The subjects of the Kingdom of Hawaii did not approve of the new coin due to the misspelling of the Kingdom's motto. Many of these coins were subsequently destroyed or distributed among the friends of the king.<sup>[2]</sup>



 **5 Cents - Kalākaua I**

**1881**

*Pattern*

Nickel

KM#2, N#21734

# 1883 Kalākaua I issues

These coins were minted in 1883-84 (all bearing the earlier date) at the San Francisco Mint, to American coinage standards and saw wide circulation on the islands. They were designed by Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber. Following **American annexation in 1898** large numbers were withdrawn from circulation and melted



# 1883 Hawaiian Coinage



 **1 Dime - Kalākaua I**

**1883**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Silver (.900) • 2.5 g • ø 18 mm  
KM#3, N#16182



 **1/4 Dollar - Kalākaua I**

**1883**

*Pattern*  
Silver (.900) • ø 18 mm  
KM#4, N#16185



 **1/4 Dollar - Kalākaua I**

**1883**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Silver (.900) • 6.3 g • ø 24.3 mm  
KM#5, N#6577



 **1/2 Dollar - Kalākaua I**

**1883**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Silver (.900) • 12.5 g • ø 30.5 mm  
KM#6, N#16186



 **1 Dollar - Kalākaua I**

**1883**

*Standard circulation coin*  
Silver (.900) • 26.73 g • ø 38.1 mm  
KM#7, N#16183

*official version*

- CS-1 UMI KENETA (ten cents) 1883 - silver
- CS-2 HAPAWALU (eighth dollar) 1883 - silver
- CS-3 HAPAHA (quarter dollar) 1883 - silver
- CS-3a HAPAHA (quarter dollar) 1883, 8/3 inside 1883 - silver
- CS-4 HAPALUA (half dollar) 1883 - silver
- CS-5 AKAHI DALA (one dollar) 1883 – silver

Mintages of the Hawaiian coins, and the numbers melted by the United States government following their demonetization in 1903, are as follows:

- Umi Keneta: (Ten Cents) 250,000; Melted: 79.
- Hapaha: (Quarter Dollar) 500,000; Melted: 257,400.
- Hapalua: (Half Dollar) 700,000; Melted: 612,245.
- Akahi Dala: (One Dollar) 500,000; Melted: 453,652.

In addition, 26 proof sets were made for presentation to dignitaries.

**Note:** Official records indicate the following quantities of the above issues were redeemed and melted: KM#1 - 88,405; KM#3 - 79; KM#5 - 257,400; KM#6 - 612,245; KM#7 - 453,652. That leaves approximate net mintages of: KM#1 - 11,600; KM#3 - 250,000; KM#5 (regular date) - 242,600, (unknown) 40,000; KM#6 - 87,700; KM#7 - 46,300.

1. KM - 1	1847 - One Cent, Mintage Was 100,00,	Now 11,600
2. KM - 2	1881 - 5 Cents, (Pattern) Mintage	Now 200
3. KM - 3	1883 - 10 Cents Mintage Was 250,000	Now 40,000
4. KM - 4	1883 - 1/8 Dollar (Pattern) Mintage	Now 38
5. KM - 5	1883 - 1/4 Dollar Mintage Was 500,000	Now 242,000
6. KM - 6	1883 - 1/2 Dollar Mintage Was 700,000	Now 87,700
7. KM - 7	1883 - 1 Dollar Mintage Was 500,000	Now 67,300

# Other Hawaiian Collectable Items

- **Tokens**

- Transportation Tokens
- School Tokens
- Work encampment tokens
- Local administration tokens
- Advertising Tokens
- Tourist Souvenir tokens
- Replica Tokens
- Mint Token & Fantasy Currency

- **Hawaiian Currency**

- Pre US
- World War Currency

- **Stamps** (Older and Current)

# Transportation Tokens

Tokens - Transportation A							1/22/2023		
TOKEN CODE	TOKEN TYPE	City	Discription - BUS SERVICE	Metal	SIZE	Ctr-Hole Type	Quan.	1983 Price Est.	Cost
ISLAND OF HAWAIIA									
210	A	HILO	KUWADA BUS SERVICE // GOOD FOR ONE SERVICE	A	21	SD		\$35.00	
	B		BUS TOKEN ONE FARE TRANSILUX LTD. // Good For One Fare (*1945)	B	16	BAR		\$2.50	
	C		SCHOOL BUS TOKEN ONE HALF FARE TRANSILUX LTD. // Good For One Half Fare (*1945)	B	23	BAR		\$10.00	
	D		HAWAII BUS ASS'N 5c FARE (BLANK) (ALUM RIM) (Printed inscription)	FW	25	Pc		\$7.50	
	E		WM 15 // (same as Obverse) (aluminum rim; printed)	FW	32	Pc		\$25.00	
	F		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (10) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fw	32	Pc		\$10.00	
	G		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (15) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fr	32	Pc		\$10.00	
	H		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (15) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fw	32	Pc		\$10.00	
	I		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (20) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fw	32	Pc		\$10.00	
	J		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (25) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fg	32	Pc		\$10.00	
	K		WAIAKEA MILL CO. BUS TOKEN (30) // (same as obverse) (on both sides)	Fw	32	Pc		\$20.00	
	L		HILO BUS ASSOCIATION FARE 2 1/2 c //	Fw	24	Pc		\$50.00	
ISLAND OF OAHU									
240	A	HONOLULU	HONOLULU RAPID TRANSIT CO. LTD. 1923 // Good For One Half Fare to and From School	FM	23	H		\$2.00	
	B		HONOLULU RAPID TRANSIT CO. LTD. (*1943) // Good For One Half Fare to and From School	Z	23	H		\$1.50	
	C		HONOLULU RAPID TRANSIT CO. LTD. 1924 // Good For One full Fare (*1924)	FM	16	H	2	\$0.15	\$6.25
	D		HONOLULU RAPID TRANSIT CO. LTD. // Good For One full Fare (*1943)	Z	16	H		\$0.15	
	E		HONOLULU RAPID TRANSIT CO. LTD. // (HULA GIRL) TOKEN 1951 (HULA GIRL) (Never Placed In Use)	WM	23	BAR	1	\$1.00	\$3.40
	F		ROSECRANS U-DRIVE-LTD. HONOLULU // Good For One Fare (*1935)	WM	16	H		\$0.35	

ISLAND OF MAUI									
330	A	KAHULUI	KAHULUI RAILROAD CO. # Good For One Fair (*1935)	WM	23	Cs		\$2.50	
	B		KAHULUI RAILROAD CO. # Good For One Fair (*1935)		16	Cs		\$1.00	
ISLAND OF KAUAI									
420	A	LIHUE	NAWILIWILI TRANSPORTATION CO. LIHUE-KAUAI // GOOD FOR ONE FARE (* 1935)	WM	16	K		\$3.50	
ISLAND OF OAHU									
540	A	PEARL HARBOR	PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS // (Same as Obverse)	B	17	P-sc		\$35.00	
	B		PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS' ASSN. T.H. P // Good For One Full Fare P	WM	21	Sd		\$10.00	
	C		PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS' ASSN. T.H. P // Good For One Full Fare P	B	21	Sd		\$0.75	
	D		PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS' ASSN. T.H. P // Good For One Full Fare P	S	21	Sd		\$0.50	
	E		PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS ASSN. T.H. P // Good For One Full Fare P	B	21	Leaf-sc		\$40.00	
	F		PEARL HARBOR DRIVERS ASSN. T.H. P // Good For One Full Fare P	B	21	Sd		\$0.50	



 **Token - Honolulu Rapid Transit Co. (Honolulu, Hawaii) 1951**

Automatic tokens › Transit token

Copper-nickel • 4.10 g • ø 23 mm

AC# HI 240 E, Medcalf# 2TT-7, TC# 17900, N# 41948



# Hawaiian Tokens

- **John T. Waterhouse** (Struck in White Metal)



# Wailuku Plantation

2TE-2 obv. W.P. 12½ 1871

- 2TE-3 obv. W.P. 12½ 1871, wider pointed starfish

- 2TE-4 obv. W.P. VI (6½)

- 2TE-5 obv. W.P. VI, wider pointed starfish

- 2TE-6 obv. W.P. 1880, rev. 1RL

- 2TE-7 obv. W.P. 1880, rev. HALF REAL





## Kahului & Wailuku Railroad

- 2TE-8 obv. .T.H.H. 12½, rev. R.R. 1879
- 2TE-8a obv. .T.H.H. 12½, rev. R.R. 1879, thicker 2mm planchet
- 2TE-9 obv. T.H.H. 12½ no dot in front of "T", rev. two stars
- 2TE-10 obv. T.H.H. 25, rev. R.R. 1879



T.H.H. 12½ 1879  
obverse (2TE-8)

T.H.H. 12½ 1879  
reverse (2TE-8)

T.H.H. 25 1879  
obverse (2TE-10)

T.H.H. 25 1879  
reverse (2TE-10)

## Kahului Railroad

- TE-9 10 Cents, 1891
- TE-10 15 Cents, 1891
- TE-11 20 Cents, 1891
- TE-12 25 Cents, 1891
- TE-13 35 Cents, 1891
- TE-14 75 Cents, 1891

# Early Hawaiian Currency (1847 – 1898), Pg - 1



 **5 Dollars (Gold Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 6, N# 334048



 **5 Dollars (Silver Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 11, N# 334053



 **10 Dollars (Certificate of Deposit)**  
**ND (1879-1880)**

*Standard banknote*

P# 1, N# 252311



 **10 Dollars (Silver Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 12, N# 334054

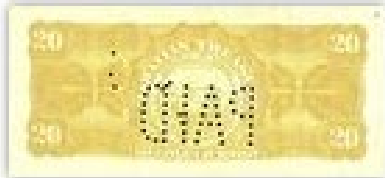
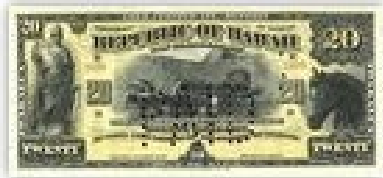


 **20 Dollars (Certificate of Deposit)**  
**ND (1879-1880)**

*Standard banknote*

P# 2, N# 333960

# Early Hawaiian Currency (1847 – 1898), Pg - 2



 **20 Dollars (Gold Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 8, N# 334050



 **20 Dollars (Silver Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 13, N# 334055



 **50 Dollars (Certificate of Deposit)**  
**ND (1879-1880)**

*Standard banknote*

P# 3, N# 333961



Do you have  
this banknote?  
Share the  
picture!

 **50 Dollars (Gold Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 9, N# 334051



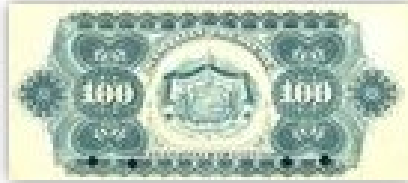
 **50 Dollars (Silver Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 14, N# 334056



# Early Hawaiian Currency (1847 – 1898), Pg - 3



 **100 Dollars (Certificate of Deposit)**  
**ND (1879-1880)**

*Standard banknote*

P# 4, N# 333962



 **100 Dollars (Gold Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 10, N# 334052



 **100 Dollars (Silver Certificate of Deposit)**  
**1895**

*Standard banknote*

P# 15, N# 334057



 **500 Dollars (Certificate of Deposit)**  
**ND (1879)**

*Trial banknote*

P# 5, N# 333963

# Hawaiian - WWII Emergency Issue, Currency

- \$1.00 1935A Hawaii – WWII Emergency Issue





# Hawaiian - WWII Emergency Issue, Currency

- \$5.00 1934A Hawaii – WWII Emergency Issue



# Hawaiian - WWII Emergency Issue, Currency

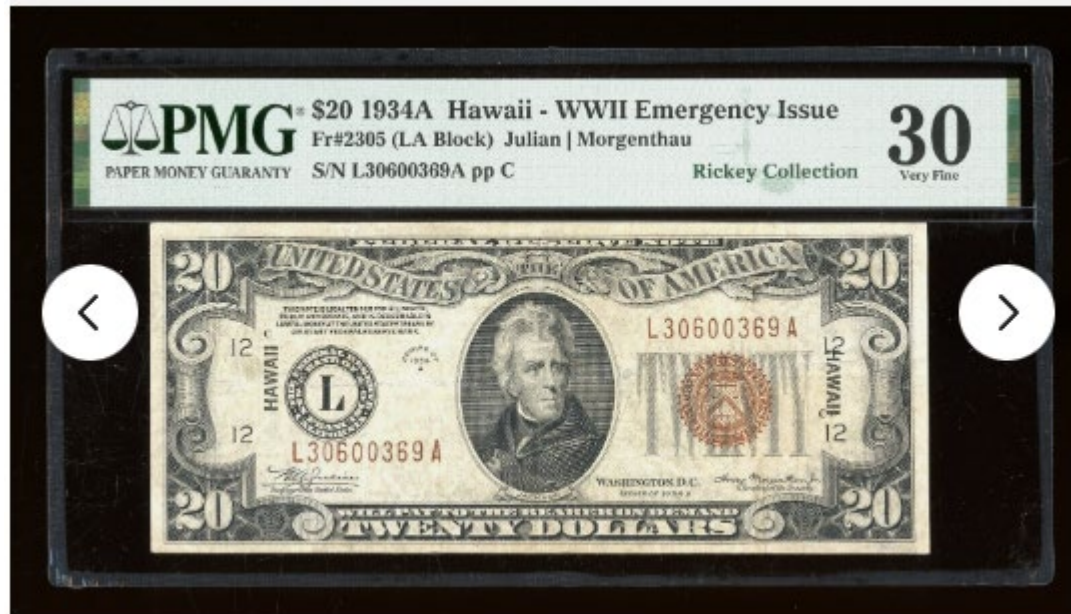
- 3. \$10.00 1934A Hawaii – WWII Emergency Issue





# Hawaiian - WWII Emergency Issue, Currency

- \$20.00 1934A Hawaii WWII Emergency Issue



# Hawaiian Stamps (Pre 1959) Types

- Missionaries Type, 1851 – 1852, 2 to 13 Cent
- King Kamehameha III, 1853 – 1890, 1 cent to 1 Dollar
- Provisional Govt. overprint, 1893 to 1894, 1 cent to 1 Dollar
- Official Stamp (s) 1896, 2 cent to 25 Cent
- Revenue Stamps 1877 – 1913, 25 Cent to 10 Dollars
- Specimen Stamps 1868 – 1889, 2 Cent to 13 Cents
- US Possession Stamps 1894, 6 Cent to 18 Cent
- Envelopes – Uncleared Indicia Only, 1884 +, 1 Cent to ??

# Hawaiian Stamps Collected in Dollar 2X2's, Typ. ID Page

<b>SCOTT # 36</b> 12 CENT, <b>1875</b> BLACK	<b>SCOTT # 37</b> 1 CENT, <b>1875</b> BLUE
<b>SCOTT # 40</b> 10 CENT, <b>1875</b> BLACK	<b>SCOTT # 41</b> 15 CENT, <b>1875</b> RED BROWN

<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>1</b> 2 CENT, 1851 - 1852 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>2</b> 5 CENT, 1864 - 1865 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>3</b> 13 CENT, 1864 - 1865 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>4</b> 13 CENT, 1864 - 1865 BLUE
SHEET #1			
<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>5</b> 5 CENT, 1853 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>6</b> 13 CENT, 1853 DARK RED	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>7</b> 5 CENT, 1853 DARK RED	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>8</b> 5 CENT, 1857 BLUE
<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>9</b> 5 CENT, 1861 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>10</b> 5 CENT, 1868 BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>11</b> 13 CENT, 1868 ROSE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>12</b> 1 CENT, 1869 - 1862 LIGHT BLUE
<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>13</b> 2 CENT, 1869 - 1862 LIGHT BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>14</b> 2 CENT, 1869 - 1862 BLACK	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>15</b> 1 CENT, 1863 BLACK	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>16</b> 2 CENT, 1863 BLACK GREYISH
<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>17</b> 2 CENT, 1863 DARK BLUE	<b>SCOTT #</b> <b>18</b> 2 CENT, 1863 BLACK	Extra	Extra

# Typical Hawaiian Stamps Collected in Dollar 2X2's



The End